



Indiana Department of Education

SUPPORTING STUDENT SUCCESS

MEMORANDUM

TO: Superintendents, Curriculum Supervisors, and Principals

FROM: Schauna Findlay, Ph.D., Director of Curriculum and Instruction

DATE: August 3, 2010

SUBJECT: Indiana's Implementation Plan for the Common Core State Standards and Curriculum Maps

The Common Core State Standards for English/language arts and mathematics were adopted on August 3, 2010, by the State Board of Education as Indiana's new standards. Since Indiana already had A rated standards, the change for our state will be much easier compared to other states who have to raise the bar significantly, but we must ensure students reach these standards. For Indiana, Common Core will allow us to introduce fewer concepts each year, but students will be expected to learn what is taught to a deeper level. There are also skills that shift to different grades from where we currently teach them in Indiana. Therefore, it is important for teachers to follow the implementation plan we have created so that students do not end up with gaps in their learning as we transition to the Common Core State Standards. We have developed a detailed plan with timelines for teaching and testing these new standards. A video laying out the plan is available for you to share with your staffs at <http://media.doe.in.gov/curriculum/2010-08-03-CommonCore.html>

For the 2010-11 school year, teachers will teach Math 2000 standards. Teachers will NOT teach Math 2009 standards. For ISTEP+ Math 2000 standards will be tested. Teachers will also teach English/language arts 2006 standards. For ISTEP+ English/language arts 2006 standards will be tested.

For 2011-12, teachers will teach Math 2000 standards AND the Common Core standards. For ISTEP+ Math 2000 standards will be tested, and for selected schools, Common Core test items will be piloted. Teachers will also teach English/language arts 2006 standards AND the Common Core standards. For ISTEP+ English/language arts 2006 standards will be tested, and for selected schools, Common Core test items will be piloted.

During the 2012-13 and 13-14 school years, we anticipate being able to provide schools with an ISTEP+ score for AYP purposes as well as a Common Core score, so schools can see how students would perform on a Common Core test giving schools time to respond to their data before the Common Core standards become the standards used to determine AYP. That means that teachers will teach Math 2000 and Common Core standards, and for ISTEP+ Math 2000 and Common Core standards will be tested. In ELA, teachers will teach English/language arts 2006 and Common Core standards, and for ISTEP+ English/language arts IN 2006 and Common Core standards will be tested.

We anticipate a multi-state test of Common Core Standards during the 2014-15 school year. We expect this test will be given over the course of the year, so results can be acted upon, with the final section at the end of the year. We expect this assessment will be given online, with paper and pencil testing only used as an accommodation.

To help schools make this transition to the Common Core work well, IDOE will provide support to schools in several ways. Standards Correlation Reports will be shared in 2010-11 so teachers can analyze the changes in the two sets of standards. Curriculum maps for grades K-12 in E/LA and K-Algebra II in math will assist teachers in how to integrate the two sets of standards as we transition from the old to the new. For the 2010-11 school year, the maps will contain just the Indiana standards. For 2011-12 the Common Core standards will be added. For the 2014-15 school year, content from the Indiana standards that is not part of the Common Core will be removed from the curriculum maps.

Using Indiana's current standards, teams of classroom teachers, professors, content specialists, and curriculum mapping experts deconstructed standard indicators to determine specific learning targets, including the level of rigor needed. Once the teams identified all the learning targets, they assigned them to topics. The topics are the headings from the Common Core State Standards. As we begin teaching the Common Core State Standards, we will be able to add additional learning targets that are required of the Common Core and still see how Indiana's standards and the Common Core intersect. The topics and learning targets were then assembled into Quarterly units. The teams were able to identify what the Big Ideas for each quarter are and from there write Essential Questions to give students an overarching question that will help them in understanding how the content fits together and why it is useful. Finally, vocabulary for each unit was listed to ensure that all students are learning the words that will be crucial for their success in working with the content and demonstrating their learning on assessments.

How to Access Curriculum Maps on Learning Connection

1. Visit <https://learningconnection.doe.in.gov>.
2. On the login screen, you can click the Curriculum Map link.
3. Once you are the Curriculum Map page, you will select your course from the list of courses.
4. Maps can be saved and printed by clicking the Course Export button, or
5. Maps can be accessed electronically by clicking on the Quarter the teacher wishes to see.

Units were created for each quarter for several reasons. First, that time period allows teachers flexibility within the quarter to organize content in ways that meet the students' needs. Second, in 2014-15, the Common Core test will likely be distributed over the course of the year in quarterly tests. Teachers will need to ensure they have taught the content that will be tested each quarter. By implementing curriculum under this structure now, we can get feedback from teachers about the design of the curriculum and make adjustments. This curriculum will inform the design of the Common Core assessments as we work with other states on these tests. Finally, Acuity Pre- and Post-tests for each quarterly unit for grades 3-8 have been developed to align with the Learning Targets on the curriculum maps to support RTI. Using this data, teachers can see what adjustments need to be made in instruction and can identify students who need to be remediated and those who need intervention. Additionally, the pre-test results will show the teacher which skills have already been mastered, so he or she can provide more rigorous curriculum for high ability and other high achieving students.

If your school is a new or current user of Acuity within the IDOE Diagnostic Assessment Grant Program and you wish to use the ELA and/or Math Curriculum Map-Aligned (CM-A) option for 2010-11, be sure to:

Send an email to diagnostic-application@doe.in.gov

- Subject: Acuity Track Change to CM-A

- Corporation Number
- School Number
- School Name
- CM-A Content Area (ELA and/or Math)

*Note: Non-selected CM-A content areas will remain on the track indicated during the spring application process.

To continue to talk about this initiative and others impacting curriculum and instruction, please join the Curriculum and Instruction Learning Community on the Learning Connection. Go to

<https://learningconnection.doe.in.gov/Login.aspx?ret=/default.aspx>

Once you login, click on Contacts and Communities then select Find a Community. Enter Curriculum and Instruction in the Keyword Search then select Join Community.